

Amendments to the Abstract

Please **add** the following Abstract to this application.

-- A concatenated equalizer/trellis decoding system for use in processing a High Definition Television signal. The re-encoded trellis decoder output ~~{6}~~, rather than the equalizer output ~~{19}~~, is used as an input to the feedback filter ~~{8}~~ of the decision feedback equalizer ~~{4}~~. Hard or soft decision trellis decoding may be applied. In order to account for the latency associated with trellis decoding and the presence of twelve interleaved decoders, feedback from the trellis decoder to the equalizer is performed by replicating the trellis decoder and equalizer hardware in a module ~~{1}~~ that can be cascaded in as many stages as needed to achieve the desired balance between complexity and performance. The present system offers an improvement of between 0.6 and 1.9 decibels. Cascading of two modules ~~{1}~~ is usually sufficient to achieve most of the potential performance improvement. --